

Dear AFM Team Members,

We wanted to reach out to you as soon as possible with information that we have received from Zambia that could impact your trip.

Late last week, we received word that Zambia was considering making changes to their COVID policies for international travelers. Unofficially, we were told that Zambia would start requiring all international travelers to present proof of vaccination in order to enter the country. As you can imagine, this came as a surprise to us!

As soon as we heard, we started reaching out to our contacts working at the airport, in immigration and within the ministry of health to see if we could get more information and clarification. While the picture still isn't clear as to when the exact changes will be made, we have been told that they are finalizing these changes and our expectation is for them to be enacted before our scheduled trip to Zambia.

I am scheduling a Zoom call for this evening at 9pm eastern and will try to answer any questions that you might have, but until then, I wanted to spell out exactly what we know at this time:

- The ministry of health has indicated that they are in the process of changing their COVID policies for international travelers entering Zambia.
- We do not know the exact date when they will be finalized but based on previous changes with their COVID policies and the communication we've received from individuals within the Ministry of Health, there is a high probability that they will go into effect before our trip.
- Typically, the Zambian government doesn't provide a grace period in these matters. Meaning that once it is signed into law, you are expected to comply immediately. This means that if they sign the changes into law on the 26th, Ethiopian Airlines would not allow unvaccinated passengers to travel with their airline to Zambia.
- Last week, the minister of Tourism was quoted on national media as stating that they were moving towards a "NO VACCINE, NO ENTRY" policy. While this wasn't an official approved government communication, we do believe that it clearly shows their intent and are therefore expecting that the new revisions will require all international travelers be "fully vaccinated" in order to enter the country.
- Over the weekend, Ghana introduced similar legislation and defined fully vaccinated as: when a person has taken the full dosage of vaccine approved and registered by the FDA (for AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Moderna or Sputnik V – 2 doses are required to be fully vaccinated / for Johnson and Johnson 1 dose is required to be fully vaccinated).

- Because of this and the fact that we only have 2 weeks remaining until our departure, there is only one vaccine that you would be able to get for which they would consider you “fully vaccinated” – Johnson & Johnson
- If Zambia waits until after December 27th to implement their changes, all of our team members can travel as planned without being required to show proof of being fully vaccinated. The only requirement will be to present a negative PCR COVID test.
- **If Zambia implements on or before December 27th, and you are not vaccinated**, AFM will not have an option for you to travel with us this winter. We would therefore cancel your international airfare and allow you to reschedule for a summer or winter 2022 trip.

Those who are vaccinated will be able to travel, but will still have to produce a negative PCR test along with their vaccine card when checking in for their flight with Ethiopian.

- While this does not directly impact the Zimbabwe team, there is always the potential that Zimbabwe could follow suit with the changes that are being implemented in Zambia. Therefore, we would love your feedback to the information requested below as well!

We wanted to make sure and provide you with this information as soon as possible so that you could make any decisions that you need to make in regard to the COVID vaccine. As a ministry, AFM is not for or against the COVID vaccine. We believe that vaccines are a personal decision. At the same time, for planning purposes, we do need to know the impact that this decision by the Zambian government might have on your participation this winter.

Because of this, we have created a small survey. We will not share your answers to this survey with any other team members or third parties. But we do need the information to adequately prepare should Zambia implement these new changes before our scheduled departure. **We need 100% participation on this effort.** Can you please click on the following link and complete the survey by the end of the day tomorrow?

Survey Link: <https://www.africafreedommission.org/vaccine-status>